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162FW Retiree News

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This newsletter is published by the 162FW Retirees Office for the sole purpose of providing information relevant to retirees. Photos in this publication are from Retirees Office files or public domain, unless otherwise noted. Questions or comments regarding this publication should be forwarded to the address listed in the upper left-hand corner of this page.

Did
you
know?



The Republic F-84F Thunderstreak was flown by the 162nd from 1957 to 1958.

Fifty-two years of printed *El Tigre* - now history



The printed version of *El Tigre* is history. After fifty-two years (September 1959 - October 2011) of being the primary venue for disseminating 162nd information, the print version of the monthly *El Tigre* newsletter is gone.

This was not our choice. The demise of printed media is a story that is being repeated at military bases across the country. Electronics are in while printed periodic papers and newsletters are being phased out. Fortunately for 162nd members and retirees, an electronic *El Tigre* will continue to be available so those with web access and e-mail will still have a version of *El Tigre* available to them.

For our retirees without a computer; rest assured, you will not be forgotten! There will continue to be a printed Retiree News sent to your mailbox. We realize that a significant number of our retirees do not have computer access and rely on printed news and information that arrives at their homes. Our goal is to continue the written newsletter as long as possible.

To ensure you receive mailed information it is essential that the mailing addresses and personal information in our files are current and accurate. Our retirees database is different from the *El Tigre* mailing list so, if you feel we may not have your current information, contact us at the address listed above.



Retirees monthly gathering is now a Luncheon



The Oct. 12 semi-annual luncheon was successfully held at the Golden Corral Buffet on 22nd Street. An enthusiastic crowd of former 162nd members attended this event.

A survey of attendees revealed 84% endorsed a luncheon each month rather than the traditional breakfast. Meeting in a central location was a popular choice and a reasonable price was preferred. Also, a buffet is always a more efficient way to feed large groups.

The 22nd Street Golden Corral met all the requirements; consequently, the monthly retirees event will now be a luncheon and will be held at the Golden Corral, 4380 E 22nd Street, at 11:30 a.m. Dates for the next three months are listed on the right-hand side of this page.

Final *El Tigre* article was possible only because retirees saved information

When it was time to write the final article (*The evolution of...El Tigre*) for the last printed *El Tigre* accurate information from the 1956-1959 era was essential.

Not all information needed was readily available; however, a couple of our retirees came to the rescue.

First, retired MSgt Stan Douglass had responded to an earlier request for information. He gave us the original 152nd FIS monthly training bulletins he had stored in a cardboard box for over fifty years. Second, we did not have the full names of the staff who created the first *El Tigre*. Retired CMSgt Dale Whittaker found the names on documents from the late 1950's that he had stored away in a safe place.

We thank these 162nd retirees for their foresight and generosity in helping make this final article accurate.

These are examples of how documentation from earlier unit activities can be a valuable asset in our files.

Don't throw history away; share it with us. If you have historical 162nd documents (paper or pictures) filed away, and are willing to share with us, we have a safe place in the Retirees Office to store them. All information received is a welcome addition to our historical files.

You can send info to, or contact, us at the addresses listed in the upper left-hand corner of this page.

Upcoming Retiree Events Nov 2011 - Jan 2012

Note: The White Mountain Breakfasts are a summer event and are not held during the winter months from October to April.

Nov. 9, Monthly Retirees Luncheon in Tucson, Golden Corral Buffet, 4380 E. 22nd St., 11:30 a.m.

Nov. 28, Monthly Flightline Luncheon, Skybox Café, in the shopping center at NE corner of River Rd and Craycroft, 12 noon. Everyone welcome.

Dec. 14, Monthly Retirees Luncheon in Tucson, Golden Corral Buffet, 4380 E. 22nd St., 11:30 a.m.

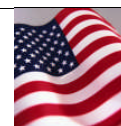
Note: The December Flightline Luncheon will not be held because of its close proximity to the Christmas holiday.

Jan 11, Monthly Retirees Luncheon in Tucson, Golden Corral Buffet, 4380 E. 22nd St., 11:30 a.m.

Jan 30, Monthly Flightline Luncheon, Skybox Café, NE corner of River Rd and Craycroft, 12 noon.

Retirees

Remembered



Arnold C. "Arnie" Franks recently passed away. He was a long-time unit member serving in Munitions, retiring as the Weapons Loading Supervisor.

Carlos S. Canez, Jr. also recently passed away. He served with the 162nd as a weekend Electrician in Civil Engineering.

Sincere condolences are extended to the families and friends of these dedicated Guardsmen.



Help us keep up with all the changes

In only one month the printed El Tigre became history and our long-time monthly retirees breakfast became a luncheon. We are adapting to these changes but need your help.

Our retiree events will continue and information will be sent to all retirees through e-mails and newsletters.

However, only those whose correct mailing or e-mail address is in our files will receive information.

If you know of someone that is not getting retiree information please have them contact us so we can get them on the list. Also, if you ever change your mail or e-mail address please send the changes to us to ensure you will continue to receive retiree information.

Flightline Luncheon reunites former 162nd Maintenance personnel



Left to Right: Jim Esbeck, Jim DelPercio, Scott Wilcox, Tom Hand, Phil Conway, Rick Betts and Charlie LaValley attended the Aug 29 Flightline Luncheon.

On the last Monday of each month retired maintenance personnel meet for lunch at the Skybox Café and discuss old times. Don't be confused by the title; this lunch event is open to all former 162nd members. The next luncheon will be held on Nov. 28 at 12:00 noon. (See Retiree Events schedule on page 1)

Supplemental Dental and Vision Insurance is available for retirees. Sign-up restricted to open season for federal employees

This is a reminder for retirees that Medicare and TriCare provide limited coverage for dental and vision care. Generally, routine care is not covered.

That's why supplemental Dental & Vision Insurance is available for retired federal employees through FEDVIP. This insurance can be started or changed only during the Federal Benefits Open Season (Nov 14 to Dec 12, 2011). For details on FEDVIP call 1-877-888-3337 or go on-line to www.benefeds.com.

For military retirees there is a supplemental dental insurance plan from TriCare through Delta Dental. Details are at www.trdp.org or call 1-888-838-8737. For this TriCare plan you can sign-up any time. There is no open season.

